## BLM News

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Elko Field Office, 3900 East Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada 89801 (775) 753-0200

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## GEOTHERMAL LEASING OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULED

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will hold an open house Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Elko Field Office, 3900 East Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada, to discuss geothermal leasing on nine parcels of public lands in Northeastern Nevada.

BLM has received nominations from companies and individuals interested developing geothermal resources and applied to lease nine parcels of public mineral estate totaling approximately 9,000 acres of public and private surface in Northeastern Nevada. Four Environmental Assessments will be prepared for the nine parcels. Three parcels are in Crescent Valley, four parcels are north of Wells, one parcel is near Jack Creek, and one parcel is about 20 miles northwest of Carlin. The nominated parcels are being considered for non-competitive leasing.

"There is increased interest in Nevada for geothermal exploration and development and the Administration is emphasizing developing alternative energy sources," said Helen Hankins, BLM Elko Field Manager.

The purpose of the open house is to give the public an opportunity to get more information about geothermal leasing and to voice any issues and concerns they want analyzed in the Environmental Assessments. Federal, state and local agencies and other individuals or organizations that may be interested in or affected by BLM's decision to lease public lands parcels for geothermal exploration and development are invited to participate in the scoping process.

For questions or more information about the Environmental Assessments, the open house, maps of the proposed geothermal leasing areas, to be added to the geothermal mailing list, or to comment about the geothermal leasing proposals, please contact Project Leader Jim Lindsay by phone - (775) 753-0200, by email at <a href="mailto:jlinsday@nv.blm.gov">jlinsday@nv.blm.gov</a> or by mail - 3900 Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada, 89801. Maps of the proposed geothermal leasing areas are also available

at the BLM Elko Field Office front desk. To ensure public comments are considered while BLM prepares the Environmental Assessments, they must be received by January 15, 2006.

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